AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

- (currently amended) An active composition for an a positive electrode of an alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:
 - a nickel hydroxide material; and
 - a binder comprising a pectin or a molasses.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

- 4. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein said binder comprises said pectin.
- 5. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein said binder comprises said molasses.
- 6. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein said binder is between about 0.1 and 2.0 weight percent of said active material composition.

7. (currently amended) An A positive electrode for an alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:

an active composition including:

- a nickel hydroxide material; and
- a binder comprising a pectin or a molasses.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

- 10. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder comprises said pectin.
- 11. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder comprises said molasses.
- 12. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder is between about 0.1 and 2.0 weight percent of said active material composition.
- 13. (previously presented) An alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:
 - at least one positive electrode:
 - at least one negative electrode; and

an alkaline electrolyte,
said positive electrode having an active material
composition including a nickel hydroxide material and a
binder comprising a pectin or a molasses.

Claim 14 (canceled)

15. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13, wherein said negative electrode comprises a hydrogen storage active material.

Claim 16 (canceled)

- 17. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13, wherein said binder comprises said pectin.
- 18. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13, wherein said binder comprises said molasses.